GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:13
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2002
EXTERNAL AID FOR CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE
MONI KUMAR SUBBA

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a leading US Organisation for conservation of wildlife and several other foreign agencies have come forward to help Assam in conservation and promotion of elephants by developing the habitat of pachyderms in Kaziranga National Park and other forest area in Digboi and elsewhere in the state;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of aid offered by each agency; and

(c) the details of aid received so far this year and the steps taken for development of the pachyderm habitat ?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) The US Fish and Wildlife Service has agreed to provide financial support for the following areas in Assam from the Asian Elephant Conservation Fund :

(1) Construction of anti-poaching camps in US $ 35,085 Sonai Rupa Sanctuary

(2) Creation of infrastructure in Kaziranga US $ 42,882 National Park and additional areas

(3) Efforts to decrease Elephant-Human US $ 37,240 conflict under Digboi Forest Division

(c) The funds for Sonai Rupa Sancutary (US $ 35,085) have been received through the 'Welfare Areas and Development Trust' and the works are in progress. Contracts have been signed by the aforesaid trust and the U.S.Fish and Wildlife Service for Kaziranga National Park and Digboi Forest Division, but the funds are not yet released.